



NASSAU COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

240 OLD COUNTRY ROAD
MINEOLA, N.Y. 11501

FRANCIS T. PURCELL
County Executive

JOHN J. DOWLING, M.D., M.P.H.
Commissioner

FRANCIS V. PADAR, P.E.
Asst. Deputy Commissioner
Div. of Environmental Quality

November 14, 1979

Mr. Ernest Schmalz
Environmental Protection Agency
26 Federal Plaza
Room 812
New York, New York 10007

Re: Cerro Wire - North Side
of Plant

Dear Mr. Schmalz:

Pursuant to our telephone conversation on November 13, 1979, I have enclosed the following regarding Cerro Wire:

1. Undated memo re inspection of Cerro Wire on 5/22/79.
2. Sampling data resulting from above inspection (4 sheets).
3. A reinspection report of Cerro Wire on 10/3/79.

In addition, please be advised that public sewers are available and the necessary permits have been applied for by Cerro Wire. To date, they have not been connected.

If there is any further information we can provide, please contact us.

Very truly yours,

Stanley Juczak, Jr., P.E.
Director
Bureau of Land Resources
Management

SJ:ms

Encl.



228621



MEMORANDUM

NASSAU COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

240 Old Country Road

Mineola, New York 11501

To : L. Sama

Date:

From : J. Schechter, H. Schaefer

Subject : Inspection of Cerro Wire & Cable Co.
Robbins Lane
Syosset, N.Y. SPDES NY 0076171

On 5/22/79 at 1:00 A.M., an inspection was conducted at Cerro Wire & Cable Co. Those attending included:

Donald Furst, Plant Manager, Cerro Wire
Fred Sarino, Chem. Eng., Cerro Wire
N. Latten, Chief Engineer, Cerro Wire
H. Schaefer, Bureau of Land Resources Mgt., NCDH
J. Schechter, BWWM, NCDH

The inspection was conducted at the request of Stan Juczak for the purposes of verifying and identifying sources of chemical, oil and sanitary waste contamination and spillage on the site.

The inspection revealed the following:

1. Numerous drums (55 gallon) are being stored on wooden pallets on a concrete apron on the west side of the property bordered by LIRR on the west and Robbins Lane on the south. The drums were identified as containing the following products.
 - a. Scrap metal including Zn metal from Zinc anodes - in open 55 gallon drums.
 - b. Spent coolant - water soluble oil - many in open top 55 gallon drums.
 - c. Waste oils - labelled used oil - some in open top drums.
 - d. Spent acids - drums labelled "Hot Stuff" identified as containing Znanode and H_2SO_4 - closed drums.
 - e. Spent solvent - labelled solvent - in sealed drums and identified by N. Latten as Solva/Sol (diethylene glycol ethyl ether - Mol. Formula $O_3C_6H_{14}$)
2. Black metallic particles with the appearance of sludge was noted on a concrete apron to the west of the drums containing acid was identified by N. Latten as copper oxide removed from the hot rolling dies and placed at this location to dry.

Some of the sludge had washed off the concrete and onto the soil. A sample (JS-2-79) of this soil was obtained for analysis. Black streaks in the soil south of the copper oxide drying area were noted and appeared to be runoff from the oxides.

3. Spillage of black oily sludge like material was noted beneath the waste drum pallets on the soil adjacent to the drum storage area. N. Latten stated it was oil spillage, not chemical.

One drum of spent acid was noted leaking onto the concrete pad.

A sample of oily soil was obtained from the soil west and adjacent to the spent coolant (oil). (#JS-04-79)

4. Overflowing cesspools were noted in the southwest corner of the property.

A sample was obtained for analysis (JS-03-79)

Evidence indicates sanitary system cannot handle flow.

5. Two illegal discharges noted north of the boiler building - One identified by Donald Furst as boiler blowdown, the other as possibly compressor cooling water. The boiler blowdown water was brown in coloration.

6. A pit containing oil soaked sand was noted north of the boiler building along the property line.

7. A ditch was noted north of the copper oxide drying area. A pipe was noted at the eastern end of the ditch. The bottom of the ditch contained water and the bottom and side walls were discolored. Mr. Latten indicated that the pipe discharged storm water runoff from storm drains to the east of this area. Dye testing of storm drains verified this fact. Mr. Latten stated that the pipe had been constructed due to collapse of the storm water catch basins.

A sample of water at the bottom of the ditch was obtained for bacterial and chemical analysis (JS-01-79).

8. Staining of soil adjacent to drum storage area noted.

Mr. Latten was advised that contaminated soil would have to be removed from the area and disposed by an industrial waste scavenger. He was also advised that the boiler blowdown discharge was not covered by the SPDES Permit NY 0076171.

Mr. Latten stated that the waste oil would be burned in the boiler and waste acids would be treated in the plant after analysis by Mr. Marino.

Mr. Latten was advised that another inspection would be held along with NYSDEC and NYSDOT representatives to discuss the disposition of spilled oils and chemicals.

(Signed) Joseph Schechter
(Signed) Howard Schaefer

ENVIRONMENTAL
HEALTH
Continuation Sheet
Nassau County Health Department

Owner or
Agent : Cerro Wire
Address: Syosset

Inspector

DATE

COMMENTS

10/3/79 On 10/3/79 AT 11:00 AM AN inspection was conducted at Cerro Wire & Cable Co. Those attending included:

H. Schaeffer, NCDH, BLRM
T. DeCostanzo, NYSDEC, BWS
J. Schuchter, NCDH, BWWM
F. Sarino, Chemist, Cerro Wire

The inspection revealed that contaminated soil (oil soaked) had been removed from various locations on property. Waste containing drums had been relocated onto paved areas & segregated into: cooling oil (water soluble), thinners (VMP Naptha) & ~~oil~~ plating sludges (Zn and Cu). Waste oils have been removed from the area. The copper oxide is still located at the paved area used for drying this scale that accumulates from the rolling process. Sewage continues to overflow from the sanitary system.

~~H. Schaeffer & This writer~~

H. Schaeffer & This writer met with N. Latten to discuss the removal of wastes & connection of the sanitary system to the N.C. Sewer system. Mr. Latten stated that:

(1) waste oils have been removed by a scavenger.

ENVIRONMENTAL
HEALTH

Continuation Sheet

Nassau County Health Department

Owner or
Agent :

Address:

Inspector

DATE

COMMENTS

② DPW has been contacted & an application filed to connect the sanitary system (that has failed) to the county sewer. Mr. Latten was advised that D.P.W. be contacted & informed that the failed sewer represents an emergency action. This should expedite matters. () ()

③ Mr. Latten has inventoried all wastes on hand. Waste Thinners will no longer be produced, as the Thinner is now being recycled into fresh paint batches. Mr. Latten thanked the county for bringing this problem to his attention, as he has now saved his firm costs involved in purchasing & removing solvents. There remains ~ 65 drums of waste plating solutions (cyanide bearing wastes), and 30 - waste cooling oils & 65 waste Thinners. Drums previously uncovered have been supplied with plastic sheeting covers. Mr. Latten is negotiating with several scavenger firms for removal of waste materials, including Chemical Management Inc. In approximately one month all waste drums will be removed from ^{the} site.

④ Cerro is considering an oil-water separator for recovery of waste oils.

⑤ Oily sand removed from the site was

ENVIRONMENTAL
HEALTH

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C O M M E N T S

Transported to The T.N.H. Landfill by Cerro.

[Suggest MEMO TO NYSDEC - LAPRANO REGARDING
VERIFICATION OF THIS.]

J Schechter